

Routine Unchanged at Fort Lauderdale

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FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla., April 2
— George Steinbrenner, the New York Yankees' principal owner, sat in the dugout trading baseball trivia questions with Bobby Murcer and watching the end of a two-hour workout. Barry Weinberg, the assistant trainer, dished out tomato soup in the clubhouse for Tommy John and Rich Gossage. Pete Sheehy, the equipment manager, folded jerseys and tidied up the equipment. Manager Dick Howser figured out a pitching schedule for probable intrasquad games later this week.

After considerable confusion last night, following a decision in Dallas by the Major League Baseball Players Association to cancel spring training's remaining exhibition games, and after a spate of early-morning meetings today, the Yankees settled into a routine virtually identical to the one that had pre-

Continued on Page B15, Column 3

Most Yanks Stay On

Continued From Page B13

vailed before exhibition games began on March 10.

Though their final seven spring games have been canceled by the labor action, and the players will not receive their daily expense money until the regular season's opening day next week, the Yankees will continue workouts at Fort Lauderdale Stadium under the supervision of their manager and coaching staff.

Players Get an Option

When the Yankees arrived at the clubhouse this morning for a 7:30 meeting with Reggie Jackson, their player representative, they expected to be barred from the field by management, stripped of their uniforms and equipment and forced to find alternative practice sites or go home. After Jackson had briefed his teammates for an hour on the Dallas meeting, he got on the clubhouse telephone to call the local Department of Recreation for advice as to where the Yankees might work out.

Instead, the players were joined by Steinbrenner, Howser and several other members of the team's front office, who had finished their own meeting. Applying guidelines set last night by Ray Grebey, the owners' labor negotiator and spokesman, Steinbrenner offered the players the option of continuing their work here, with coaches and equipment, and minus only the games themselves and expense money, some \$380 each for the week.

Jackson said that the players had received Steinbrenner tentatively at first but that the owner's remarks had been "informative and nice to listen to." After consultation by telephone with Marvin Miller, executive director of the players association, virtually all

the Yankees decided to stay here, working together each day at their regular time.

According to Howser, only Ron Guidry plans to go home, because his wife is expecting a baby later this month. Guidry plans to work at his alma mater, the University of Southwestern Louisiana, and Howser is not at all concerned about his diligent pitcher's progress.

Howser realizes that there is no certainty the players will stay, but he is confident they will, although there was speculation among the team that Ken Clay, a pitcher currently out with a virus and not likely to make the team, would leave camp.

Lou Piniella was missing from today's meeting and hastily organized workout, but his teammates thought he had a business meeting and would return tomorrow. Oscar Gamble and Gossage elected to sleep late and arrived at the stadium just before 10. "You find out about this stuff soon enough," Gossage said, still rubbing sleep from his eyes.

Luis Tiant, the ageless pitcher, was the only Yankee to pack his gear before Steinbrenner's announcement, loading the trunk of a navy blue Mercedes with a gym bag, bats and balls. Within an hour, Tiant was quietly unpacking.

At Jackson's impromptu suggestion, the players elected not to wear their official uniform shirts. "I did it off the top of my head," Jackson said, dashing happily back and forth through the clubhouse between meetings with Steinbrenner and telephone calls to Miller. "It looks more informal." Graig Nettles inquired in jest whether shirts and ties were required at spring training sessions during the players' boycott of exhibitions, and Murcer told Steinbrenner that he had been instructed by Gamble to get a haircut.